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## Ontario Energy Board (Board Staff) INTERROGATORY #10 (KEMA Report)

## **Interrogatory**

Under the circumstance that neither the incumbent or applicant distributor is capable of serving a new load consumer without investment, would the implications of uncertain service areas (as set out on pages 6 to 8) still arise? Please explain your response.

## Response

Yes. Under the circumstance that neither the incumbent nor applicant distributor is capable of serving a new load consumer without investment, the implications of uncertain service areas would still arise. As discussed in the response to Question 2, the incumbent would still experience the consequences of increased uncertainty in preparing its load forecast and capital construction plan due to an undefined service area as well as the loss of future consumption units which would result in, among other things, higher average costs to remaining customers. The incumbent would also face uncertainty of service obligation — who is responsible for serving the customer? And what implications (including cost) are there from that obligation? For example, would the incumbent have been expected to plan for and make investments upstream of the new customer? The consequences of the planning uncertainty are not specifically related to the incremental costs associated with serving the load of any new customers.